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Private & Personal.

BANGALORE.

19th April 12.

My dear Sir,

"Man proposes, but God disposes!" We were to have met here on the 9th of March, or lately when you came here: but the meeting has not been allowed to occur.

You are venturing on a summer tour, for the land of summer. It must be something of urgent moment that is taking you out at this season, and I hope you will give me leave to wish that it may prove fruitful.

What changes have come about since we were last together! And whatever hand you have had in bringing them about, I must render you sincere thanks on behalf of my fellow countrymen!

I must offer you congratulations too, on your most recent rise. Perhaps, 5 years hence, if I remain here, or wherever I may remain, I may have the pleasure of wishing you joy on the final elevation that the official life of the Province can offer. That you should in early manhood so easily achieve things

to which old veterans would be aspiring with watering mouths, is really remarkable. Perhaps there is none in Mysore more ambitious than myself: yet even I,— if my dreams did not extend to a wider horizon, and were not my ambition centred on something international, — would like my career to re-semble yours! Our stations are different, and we have met only three times in our lives; so I do not venture to tell you that I feel the genuine goodwill and happiness of a friend in your prosperity, but nevertheless I may safely say that my pleasure was unalloyed when I heard of your advancement.

Mr. Mirza, there is one feeling which has been guiding me in seeking this intercourse with you: the feeling that the moral and material prosperity of the state is an indivisible, and the desire to help you to realise that the strategical position in which you are placed gives you the power to play the part of the alchemist, who might produce gold out of it if he will. Surely you will produce the gold?

"The strength of a state," writes Frederick, the great king of Prussia, "consists of the great men whom Nature causes to be born therein at the opportune moment."

the opportune moment is here, and what is wanted is that some of us should have the courage to consider ourselves great, and work for the State with our wisest powers: And probably, before we die, we may leave it as great as Denmark, a Belgium, a Holland, or Switzerland!

I enclose for your inspection two statements, showing two sources of increasing our finance. The first deals with the newly raised Tariff problem, and shows that the Mysore populace is quietly eased of 50 lakhs of rupees by the India Government. That it must rightfully be made over to our State, is a point that must be easily accepted, and it is also easy to recognise that it will relieve much of our present misery. In inviting your attention to the statement, and in having worked it out, I have done all that lay in my power. If you could bring His Highness to view it on its full merits, and make a fight over it when you go to Simla, some thing may come out of it.

the other is meant to show the possible revenue from an export duty on some of the leading exports. Mr Ranganatha Rao School — whose opinion should be counted for much in these matters — and Sir Chalmers, seem to think of export duties as "damnation" But somehow I cannot help feeling that in this matter they are talking from theory, and that the taxpayers will not suffer. Anyway you may look through it for what it is worth.

Both the Memoranda are fairly important, and were worked by me unofficially. So I could send them to you without any breach of discipline. (Official) Please consider them patiently, and do what you deem best.

There are other things that I feel driven to talk to you about: the grave and perilous tendencies of our present system of Education, which ought not to be countenanced by so righteous a prince as your loyal friend and master, the Chancellor of

two rising Universities; on the latest evil of our life; the women's franchise. I have failed many times in University Examinations, and not one of those times have I received a shock so severe as when I heard of the late Legislative Council Resolution on the subject of Women's vote and election. I wonder whether you do not think that the constitution and procedure of the Legislative Council ought to be made more circumspect and formal, and permitted to be whether an age long practice can be altered in minutes by a halting speech from a village lawyer, and the presence of half a dozen women who are domestic pastures and want to become a public nuisance!

It is well that my spirit is enchained just now. As a citizen, as a moralist, as a thinker, as one interested

in social well-being, & see things
differing in perdition, and am bursting
with repressed sorrow! God alone must
keep us!

I hope you are well and happy,
and with all good wishes
remain very sincerely yours
G. R. Sims.

P.S. I have written with a bad pen,
but do scan through what I have
written, Kindly! I will do better
next time.

Amin ul Mulk
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Mysore